TOP OF THE HILL

Volume 15 | Issue 5 | May 28, 2010

Atlanta: Totally Awesome!

By Davis Lovvorn

Early in the morning on Wednesday, April 7, 2010, over 110 8th graders packed into a couple of buses and vans. It was finally time for the Atlanta trip! After enduring a four-hour drive to the capital of Georgia, the 8th graders arrived at Underground Atlanta. For those who do not know, Underground Atlanta is a quasi-indoor shopping center full of cool souvenir stores and good restaurants. Some good friends like Adam Biesman, Brandon Carpenter, and Josh Rotker were willing to wait twenty minutes for me to get two tiny Sweden flags at the flag shop (Note: I got the flags so I could wave them at the Predators playoff games in support of Patric Hornqvist, the Preds' leading goal scorer. Unfortunately for my wallet and me, Hornqvist was out for most of the playoffs). After having a fine meal of pizza and DQ Blizzards, we continued to shop. Perhaps the most popular items purchased were belts with golden guns on them. Others bought hats of various nationalities. Mr. Thurmond called all the boys together so we could leave before all wallets were empty.

Andretti Indoor Karting and Games

Andretti Indoor Karting and Games was my favorite event. Since I was put in Mr. Thurmond's van, I got to the arcade before everyone else. Therefore, our group got to race the go-karts first. The speed was apparently only twenty-five miles per hour, but adding the fact that one is so low to the ground, it simulates a real Indy-Car series race. I got completely dominated, but not without cause by another person. On about the third lap, I innocently rounded a turn, perhaps hugging the barrier a bit more than I should have been, and a go-kart slammed me from behind, sending me speeding out of control into the barrier (or spina) and spinning into the outside wall. A speeding Josh Rotker slammed on the brakes just in time to avoid the pile-up. When I turned around to angrily wave my fist at the perpetrator (I was unhurt, but slightly dazed), I was shocked to learn that the menace was our friendly Features editor Adam Biesman. The race continued without incident; however, Brandon Carpenter did spin out a few times. The experience was exhilarating. Wilson Hays and Alec McDowell won our heat. The arcade games were amazing. The games that

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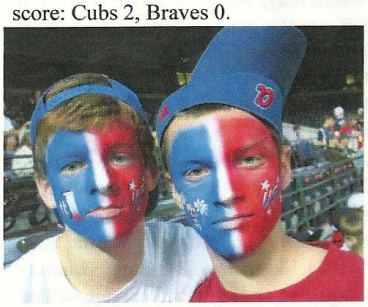
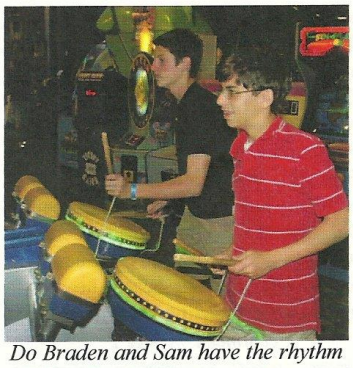
attracted the most crowds were the NASCAR racing, the sniper games, and a game where people wasted their money trying to win an iPad. Thanks to Andretti Indoor Karting and Games for a great experience.

Cubs @ Braves

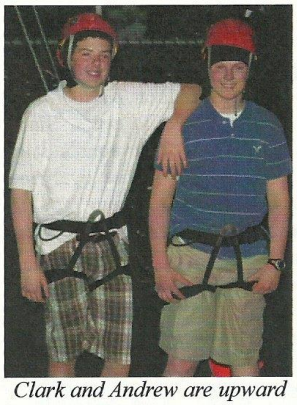
The Cubs and Braves game was a highlight for me. Before the start of the game, Andrew Dupuis challenged me to a game that checks the speed of one's pitch. I won but am embarrassed to divulge my speed. After we chowed down on overpriced food, the game was underway. Braves' rookie standout Tommy Hanson was on the mound, throwing a great game; however, it was not enough to beat the Chicago Cubs, whom I was rooting for. I am a huge Mets fan, so I could not afford an NL East divisional rival to win the game. Cubs slugger Marlon Byrd hit a towering fly ball right at the left field stands - right where we were sitting! I could have caught the home run ball (no joke!), but I was too scared to make a move for the ball. After some bouncing around, the ball ended up in Coach McGugin's hand. My Cubs pulled away after that hit. The final score: Cubs 2, Braves 0.



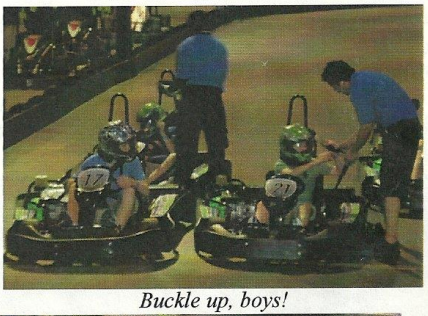
True Braves fans show their colors.



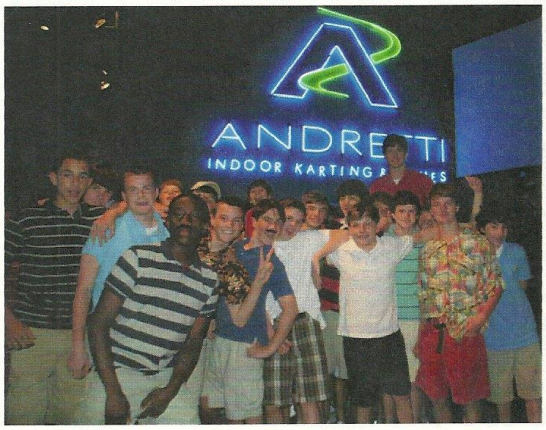
Do Braden and Sam have the rhythm to win?

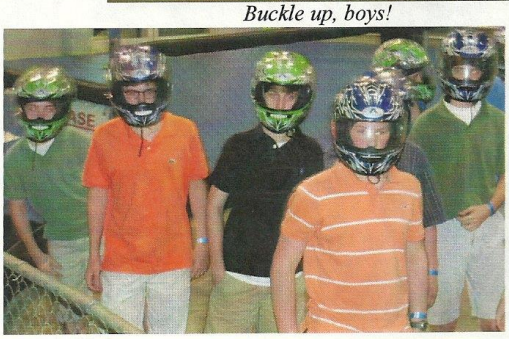


Clark and Andrew are upward bound.



Buckle up, boys!



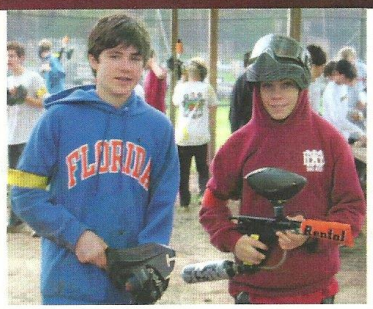


These boys look like they mean business.

ATLANTA

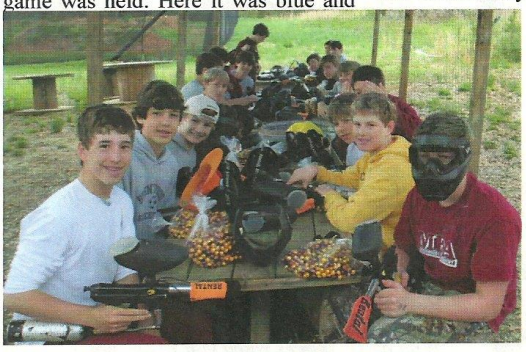
Paintball and Park Rides: A Trip Highlight

By Jordan Pugh



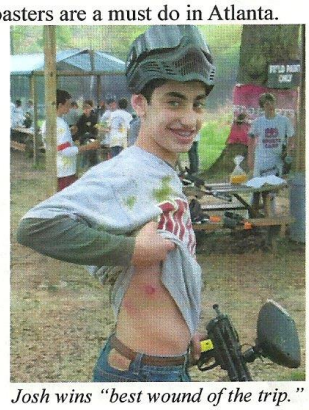
Paintball: For me one of the best parts of the Atlanta trip was paintball. For five hours we played nonstop paintball in several different fields. Everyone was supplied with the same type of gun, a paintball mask, and five hundred paintballs to begin with. We were then all split into to two different groups, and then those groups were split into two groups, and we were ready to play. Our first match was held in the bunker field. One highlight on this field was Chase Duffey vs. Braden Welbourn. Chase was coming around to shoot a seemingly helpless Braden when Braden charged Chase and fought for his gun. Eventually, the gun was broken, and they both surrendered. The best field by far was the Woods. This was where the entire class paintball game was held. Here it was blue and yellow vs. green and red. The rules were slightly different for this game; instead of dying permanently, you were sent to the dead box where you waited for three minutes, and then went back to your base to rejoin your team. The field itself was several times bigger than any of the others, and both teams had their own flag. The goal was to get all the way to the enemy base, get their flag, and return to your base. During the game the green/red team consistently controlled about ¾ of the field. Luckily for my team however, they got too trigger happy and quickly ran out of ammo. This mistake allowed a group of several blue/yellows to get the flag and win a seemingly impossible victory.

Paintball was my highlight for the entire Atlanta trip, and I hope that it will also be the highlight for future eighth graders. (7th graders, paintballs are ridiculously expensive, so either be conservative or bring a lot of money.



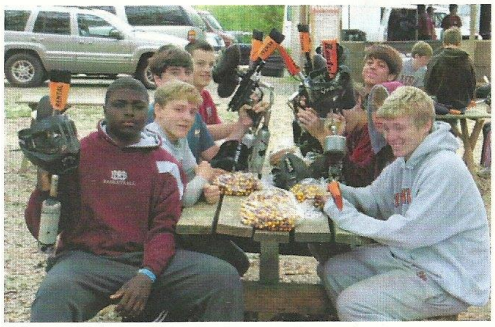
Locked and loaded and ready to go!

Six Flags: Always said to be the best part of the trip, Six Flags lived up to its reputation. Several of the great rides include the Georgia Scorcher, The Batman, The Superman, and of course the GOLIATH. The most renowned ride at the Atlanta Six Flags is definitely the Goliath; the amazing ride that is the centerpiece of the Six Flags has a huge drop in the beginning and then speeds along the track which spreads around a good deal of the first half of the park. I do not know an actual time for the ride but it looked to be well over a minute and a half. Another good ride was the Georgia Scorcher. This ride is much smaller than the Goliath but was full of turns, loops, and everything else. Next, was The Batman, which was my personal favorite of the entire park. The ride in its entirety seemed to last only about twenty seconds, but the speed is incredible. This ride is so much faster than any other ride in the park, and I would recommend it to all 7th graders. Next, the Superman was generally considered the best rollercoaster in the park. I did not go on it myself because of the line, but everyone who did ride it said it was one of the best they had ever ridden. On the Superman you lie down on your stomach and practically fly around the entire ride, feeling like you are going to smack into the ground at every hill. Besides some of the roller coasters there are a lot of smaller rides scattered throughout the park; but for rising eighth graders these roller coasters are a must do in Atlanta.

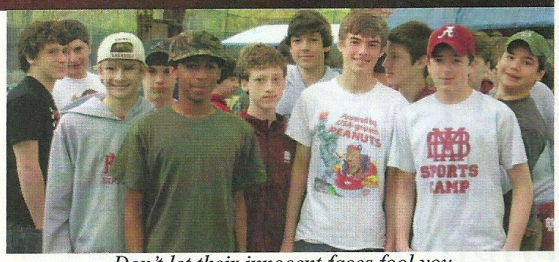


Josh wins "best wound of the trip."

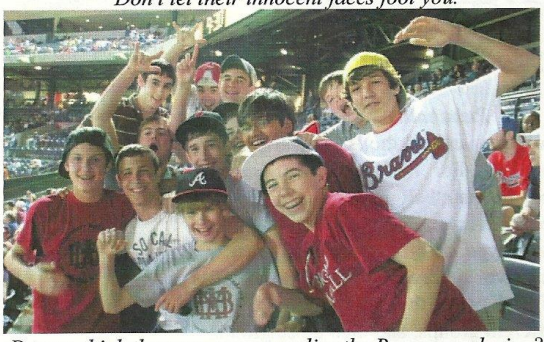
ATLANTA



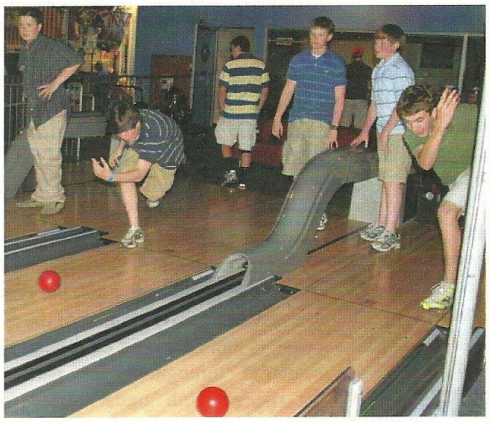
The rest of you boys need to take a cue from DJ and get your game faces on.



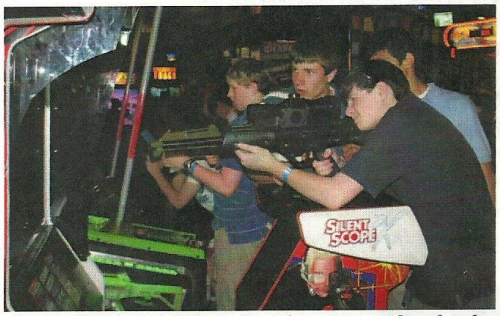
Don't let their innocent faces fool you.



Do you think these guys even realize the Braves are losing?

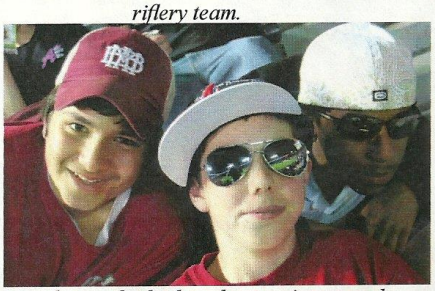


Coleman and David are in a heated 10-pin match while Jordan, Wilson, and Andrew watch intently.



Coach Sharbel may have found a new member for the riflery team.

A group of eighth graders pose for a picture while Harrison and Vinny contemplate one more ride.

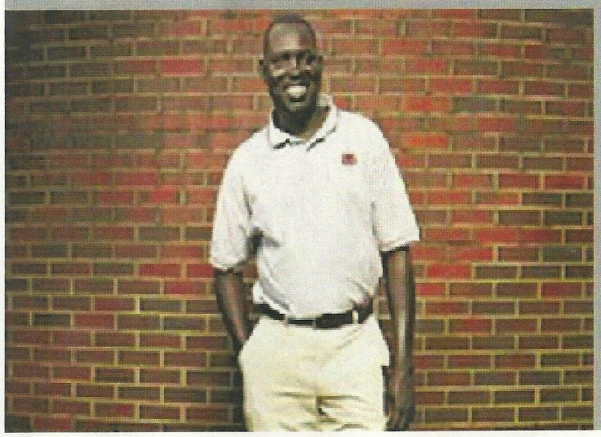


Who needs shades when you're as cool as Armand?

WE REMEMBER

In Loving Memory

Malith Wiek was one of the kindest, most loving, most persevering, and most friendly people that anyone at this school has ever met. He was one of the Lost Boys from Sudan who came to the United States to find a new life, and the MBA community was certainly lucky that he found us. His smile brightened even the worst and most stressful of days. The big man whom we all loved would always walk around the school, high-fiving everyone he saw, and when Malith would see someone whose name he did not know, he would say "Hey, what's happenin', Coach?" or "What's up, mon? How are you doing?"

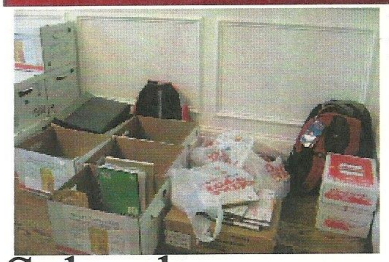


The big smile was not just for show. He genuinely cared for all of the students. When the student body was told of Malith's death, the first thing that came to my mind was "Why would anyone do something like this to a man like Malith?" I know that Malith is in a better place up in heaven looking down upon us right now. So, Malith, I speak for everyone when I say this: We will miss you so much, and you will never be forgotten by anyone who knew you. Keep on smiling,' Big Man!

~ Bates O'Neal

Gone But Never Forgotten

ON THE HILL



School Supply Drive

By Aaron Kaplan

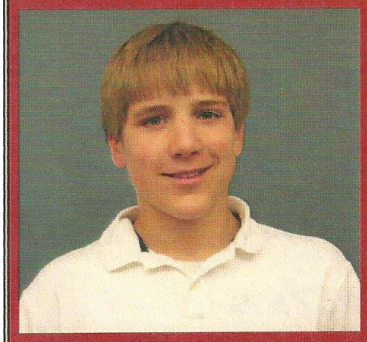
Consider, for a moment, your daily life at school. You take notes in class, you do homework, and much more. So many of your daily activities involve some use of school supplies that not all are as privileged to have. This issue was addressed with the School Supply Drive that ran from Wednesday, April 28 up until exams. The School Supply Drive collected a variety of school supplies to benefit the Caldwell School in East Nashville.

The project was done along with the Shade Tree Clinic. The clinic is run by Vanderbilt medical students and offers affordable and free medical care to any who wants it. The Clinic organizes events and programs to support the local neighborhood. To name a few examples, the Clinic has supported a neighborhood football league and a public neighborhood garden. Both of these promote health, fun, and exercise.

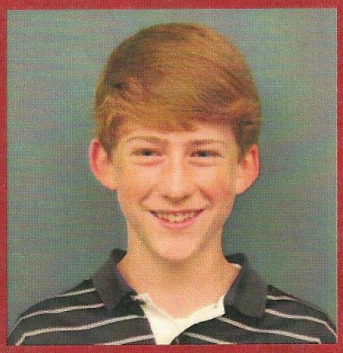
In attempt for more outreach, the Clinic is initiating a relationship with the local elementary school, the Caldwell School. All of us can agree that, whether or not we notice, the use of school supplies and interactive activities at school have enhanced our learning. It is important that everyone have the opportunity for future successes, which start with early education. The School Supply Drive was conducted in an effort to support the education of the students at the Caldwell School.

In the end, the school supply drive collected hundreds of dollars' worth of supplies to donate. The supplies include pencils, pens, crayons, paper, glue, and much more. With the support of the Junior School homerooms, the drive was a huge success, and the supplies will be greatly appreciated.

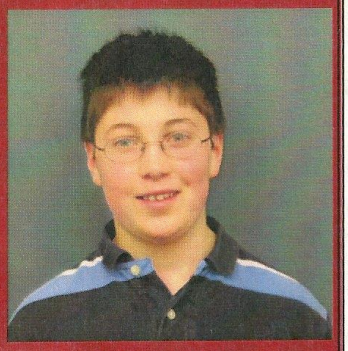
2010-11 Honor Council Representatives



Cal Fisher



Wilson Vaughan



Aaron Kaplan

ON THE HILL

The Best and Worst Summer Vacations

By Harry Stewart

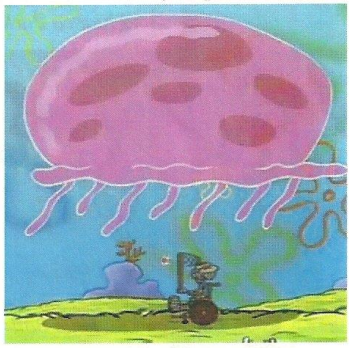
Some of you may be wondering why your vacation this summer seems like it will be very boring, or that it will be the best ever. To compare your vacation with some other people's, I put out a survey, and here are the results I got.

The best vacations that people have been on were various and surprising. With 27 of the 82 responses being a beach somewhere and five for Disney World, you might not be alone this summer. But also, there are people who have been to Mumbai, Greenland, Belize, England, and other distant places.

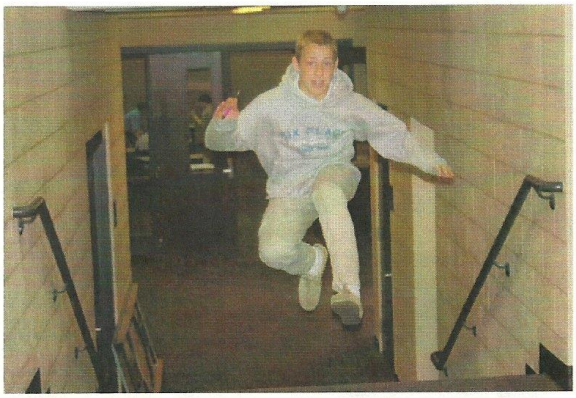
When asked what the best vacation would be, yet again, many of them were a beach, but Sam Bellet said that he'd love to go and "Beat all the liberals in an epic argument in Washington D.C," Kang Huh says Tokyo is ideal, and Wesley Tseng said the ideal vacation would be a trip to the North Pole to chill with Santa.

If you think your vacation will be bad, these are the worst vacations people have been on, and the worst they could imagine. One person got stung by five jellyfish in Hilton Head, and many spent summer at home. The worst possible vacations were sleeping on a freezing mountain without food, being in a hurricane, being attacked by penguins in Antarctica, and lastly, summer school.

So if you think your vacation is bad, just think, it could be worse. Or if you are just curious about others' favorite vacation spots, there are a wide variety of places to go.



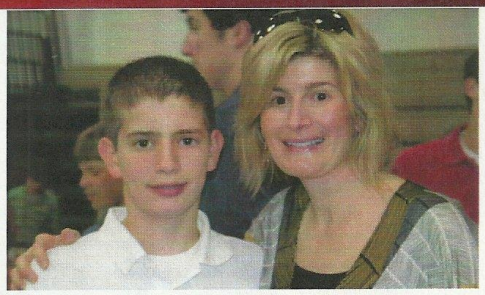
Blake Solarek, Neal Hawkins, Jacob Lothers, Wren McFadden, and Mac Mackey don their togas to present their god, "Chubbicus," during the seventh-grade unit on Greek mythology



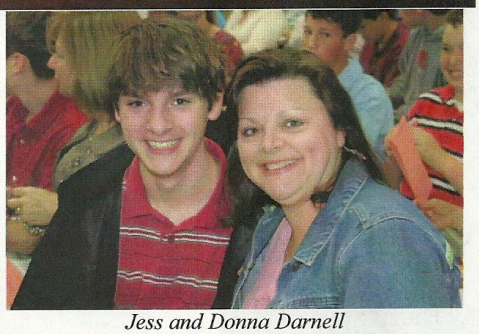
At a recent bake sale, Ridley Wills demonstrates the awesome power of energy drinks.

The tribute to Malith Wiek on page 5 was designed by Andrew Dupuis

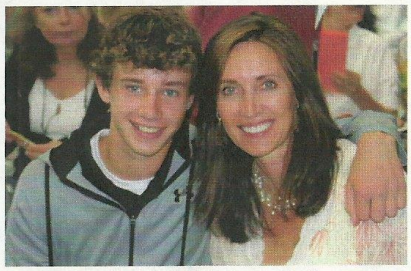
BREAKFAST. . .



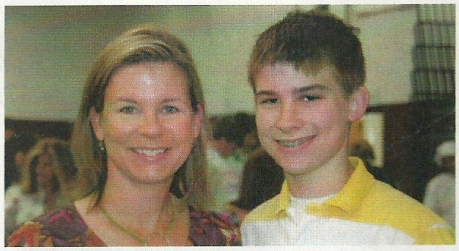
Reid and Bianca Parker



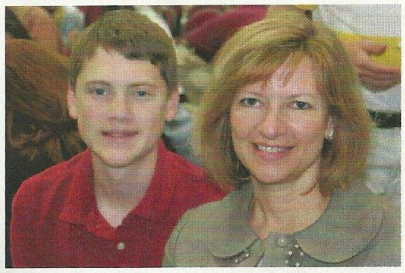
Jess and Donna Darnell



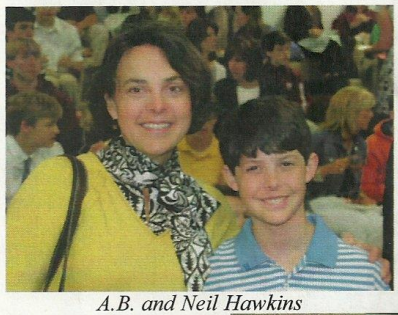
Parks and Melanie Ball



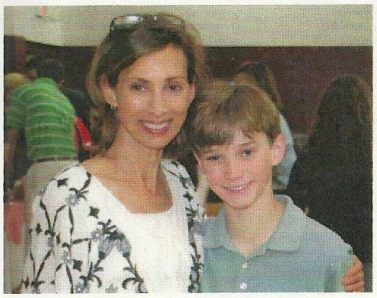
Elizabeth and Charlie Hawkins



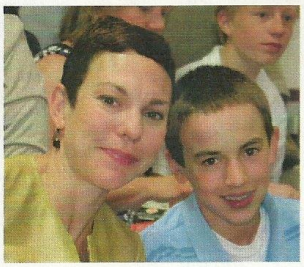
Sam and Mimi Hurd



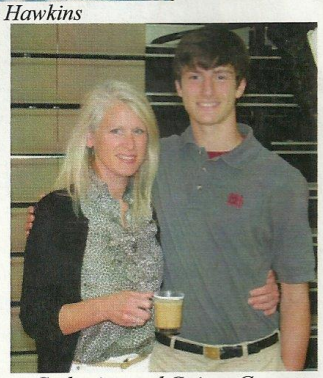
A.B. and Neil Hawkins



Lesley and Cole Jones

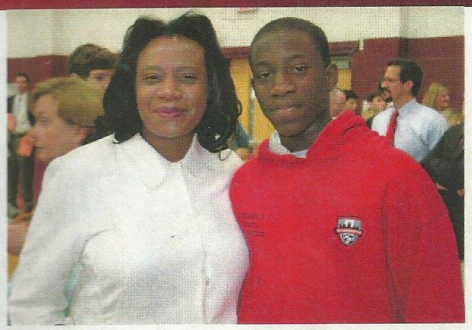


Mandy and Haynes Young

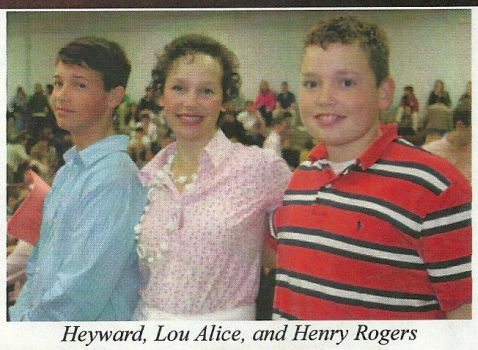


Catherine and Gaines Garrett

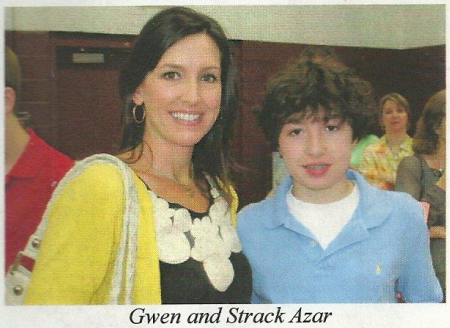
WITH MOM



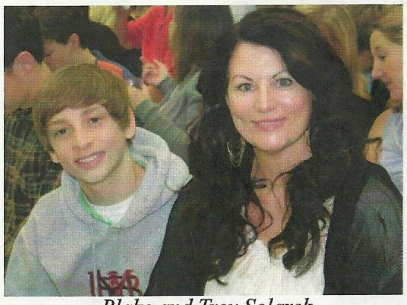
Lola and Samuel Bamigboye



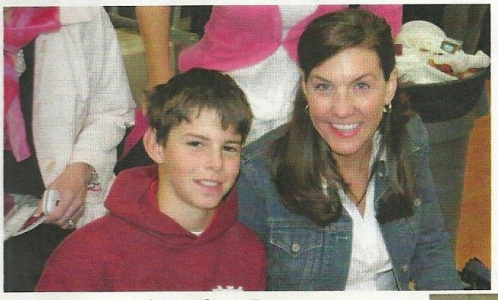
Heyward, Lou Alice, and Henry Rogers



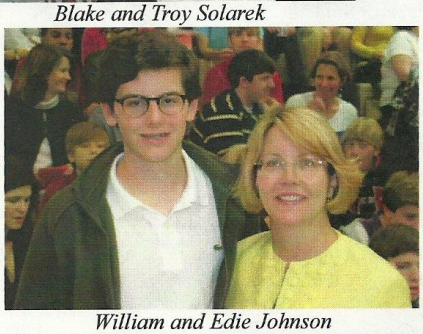
Gwen and Strack Azar



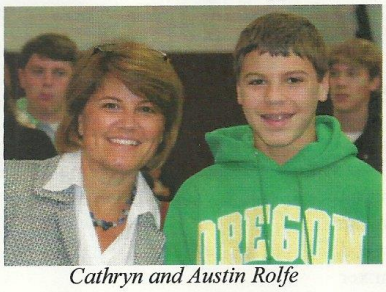
Blake and Troy Solarek



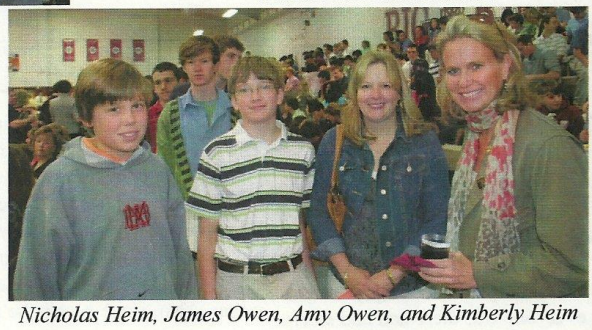
John and Joi Tipps



William and Edie Johnson



Cathryn and Austin Rolfe



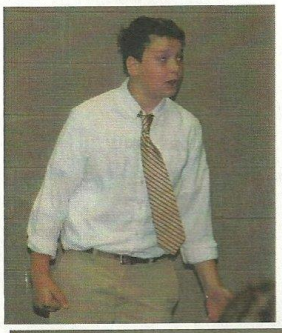
Nicholas Heim, James Owen, Amy Owen, and Kimberly Heim

ON THE HILL

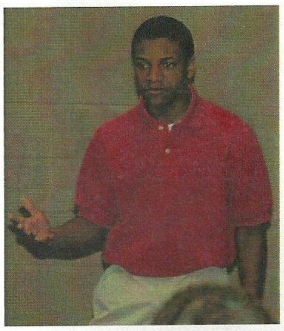
Poetry Recitation Competition: An Insider's View

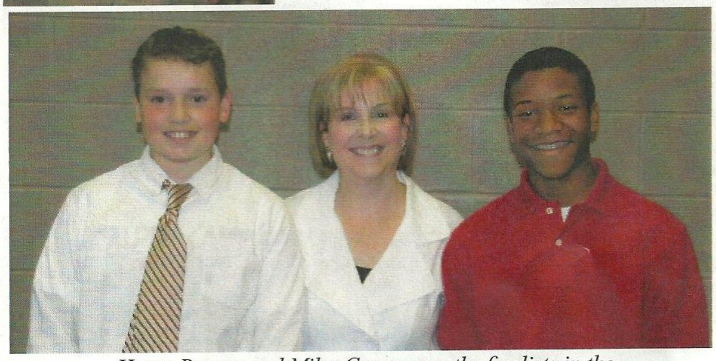
By Henry Rogers

On April 20th through the 21st, twenty 7th and 8th grade contestants hastily left their 2nd period classes to perform their perfected poems and speeches in front of a panel of judges, and any other dedicated friends who wanted to watch. This performance was the 4th annual poetry recitation, hosted by Mrs. Roberts. From the point of view of a contestant, this was a very nerve-racking and exciting event. When most contestants were performing, they were shaking all over from fright, though some experienced 8th graders looked very calm and prepared to give it their all. Students fought through embarrassment and stage fright to give the best impression they could give. After two days of recitations, the two finalists were decided, and they were the 8th grade finalist, Miles Curry, and the 7th grade finalist, me. Then on April 28th, Miles and I fought a hard battle to take home the gold. I had a fun competing, and I am very thankful to have been a part of this great experience.



Henry and Miles face-off in the finals.





*Henry Rogers and Miles Curry were the finalists in the fourth annual Poetry Recitation Contest, organized by Mrs. Cherie Roberts. Henry recited Shylock's Revenge Speech from **The Merchant of Venice**; Miles recited Antony's Funeral Speech from **Julius Caesar**. Both students gave outstanding performances, and the judges selected Henry as the winner. This contest recognizes April as National Poetry Month*

Mix It Up One Last Time

By Nathan Sharp

This year MBA and Harpeth Hall had an end of the year mixer to celebrate the summer coming. The flyer the boys received promised a taco bar which prompted a lot of guys to go. Once everyone was there and had eaten their fill of tacos, the dancing began. The music was good, and the DJs did a great job of getting everybody involved; one of them even started dancing. Even though it started out with guys hanging out on one side and the girls on the other, it ended up to be a really good mixer. Also, since it was the last mixer the guys already knew some girls and that made it a little less awkward.

With the combination of girls, all you can eat tacos, and music, I think this was the best mixer of the year.

Last Will and Testament

CLASS OF 2014

By Adam Biesman

As they prepare to move onto the high school, here are some parting gifts from some of the eighth-grade class:

Alex Bars- I leave "skill" in asking questions to Logan Taylor.

Adam Biesman- I leave to Cortland Owens the official Michigan fan of the junior school.

Colton Black- Mr. Davidson- We've had more laughs than any other class. You had the best class and being part of the Century club is a true honor.

Kalyan Chadalavada- Mrs. Roberts- I really enjoyed your class in 7th grade. I just want to say that I learned a lot last year in your class.

Tristan Chari- My last will is for Logan Taylor to lead the baseball team.

Caleb Carpenter- I leave Ethan Yappin HUBRIS!!!

Jack Coyle- I want to thank Mrs. Ellery for being a great teacher this year. She has been understanding and nice all year.

Harrison Davies- I will leave rule of second period study hall to Henry Moxley.

Jack Grant-My last will is that a seventh grader carries on the tradition of drawing baby Erica on the board in advisory.

Wells Hamilton- I bequeath unofficial wrestling captainship to Chip Brothers.

Fred Harwell- I leave my pet rock to the class of 2015.

Charlie Hawkins- I leave the best Skydiver on the Hill to Gregory Quesinberry, my skydiving buddy.

Wesley Jenkins- I leave to Kang Huh the ability to annoy seventh graders in Mathcounts.

Mac McDonald- I would like to leave my Doctor Luv position to Neil Hawkins.

Alec McDowell- To Charlie Beach I give my ability to turn any conversation on the Discussion board into a conversation about *Modern Warfare 2*.

Garret Miler- I would like to leave my dashing good looks to George Hunt.

Chris Mowery- I leave to Kirkland Mawae the title of the "mow mow".

Bates O'Neal- Beardy (you know who you are), I leave you with your beard (so really I leave you whatever you already have). Keep shaving, man.

Nilay Patel- I leave Diego Martinez the nickname Pablo.

Blake Patton- I would like to leave William Richardson the skill of wrestling. (He may need it.)

Jordan Pugh- I leave Mrs. Roberts the knowledge that I hate the New York Yankees. GO RED SOX!!!!!!

Rahul Ramanna- To Wesley Tseng I will you the amazing power of the Asian hair flip.

Tejas Reddy- I am giving Harry Stewart "ADMISSION".

Josh Rotker- I leave Jess Darnell the "Ministry of Silly Walks."

Sam Smith- My last will and testament is for Mr. Cooper to hit people with his whip.

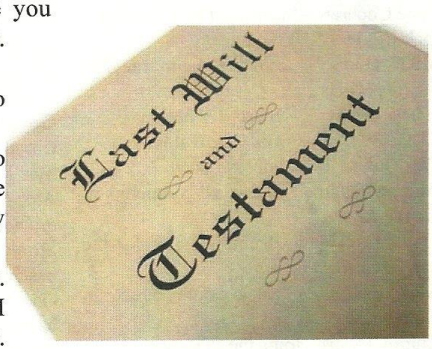
Nick Trogdon- Ok, I am Nick Trogdon, and I hereby give Chip Brothers a cookie and the ability to be a mouse. I would also like to give Ben Kelly a cookie. Lastly, I want to give Jackson Rich the ability to hide his leprechaun gold; I haven't gotten it all year.

Montgomery Turner- I, Montgomery Turner, agree to pass down flannel Friday to Coach Garner.

Tucker Voges- My last will is for Logan Taylor to make the baseball team.

Sam Weien- I, Sam Weien, leave to Gregory Quesinberry the ability to have an awesome last name.

Braden Welborn- I leave behind the title of the dumbest question of the day.

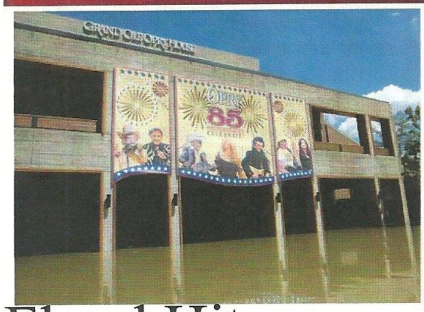


CLASS PROPHECIES

Here are some predictions for the Class of 2014:

Taylor Adams - Successful Poker player
Eric Anderson - Jack Bauer's adopted son
Strack Azar- Notre Dame Athletic director
Ferriss Bailey - Professor at Vanderbilt
Samuel Bamigboye - MLL lacrosse coach
Jonathan Barringer - Weatherman
Alex Bars - Owns a minor league baseball team.
Ben Barton – Lawyer
Brad Bennett - Slash 2
Drew Benson - Creates the "Benson Rule"
Adam Biesman – Owns the Detroit Pistons
Andrew Bittles - Creates "Slick Andy B's" shampoo
Colton Black - Wins the Olympic decathlon
Ross Blackwell - Doctor
Chris Burrus - Lead singer in a Broadway musical
Brandon Carpenter – Governor of Arizona
Caleb Carpenter – Fantasy novel author
Russell Carpenter – Soap opera actor
Ryan Carr – 104.5 Wake Up Zone commentator
Kalyan Chadalavada – Tennis extraordinaire
Tristan Chari – Starts hat shop in Montana
D.J. Clark – Records multiple rap albums
Keon Cleary – One man band
Luke Cochran – Starts iced tea company
Jack Coyle – NHL Goalie
Miles Curry – Replaces Leno on *The Tonight Show*
Harrison Davies – Starts TV network
Chase Duffey – Owns Carnival Kia
Wes Duke – Roller derby coach
Andrew Dupuis – Hacks all computers in the world.
Travonte' Easley –Running back for the Seattle Seahawks
Alec Eskind – Real estate agent in Hollywood
Chippy Evans - Joins the PGA tour
Diamond Famous - Owns a jewelry store
Cal Fisher - CEO of Dell
Tyler Forcum - WWE wrestler
Vincent Gaglione - Car dealer
Keith Gambill - Buys Rivals.com
Paul Garrard - Owns arcade called "Next Level Paul's"
Gaines Garrett - Fisherman
Will Glover - Chemist and discovers a new natural element
John Michael Gould - MLS soccer player
Jack Grant - Sideline commentator
William Gray- CEO of Dr. Pepper
Wells Hamilton - Author
David Harrison - Historian/archaeologist
Fred Harwell - Beats Roger Federer in tennis match
Sam Harwell - The next SpongeBob
Charlie Hawkins - President of the Vanderbilt Athletics Fan Club
Wilson Hays - 1st trumpet in Nashville Symphony Orchestra
John Higham - Fry cook
William Holbrook - Stand-up comedian
Clark Hooks - The Bachelor
Rem Houghton - Wins PowerBall jackpot
Jalen Hurd - World's Fastest Man
Sam Hurd - Math Department chair at Harvard University
Henry Ingram - Starts "D'angelo's Pizza"
Wesley Jenkins - Cincinnati Reds owner
Armand Jhala - Buys out Microsoft
Stephen Johnson - Film director
William C. Johnson - Wins Nobel Peace Prize
William D. Johnson - Butcher
Max Katseff - Sports commentator
Christian King - Own a gym
Denney Lackey - Chinese professor
Davis Lovvorn - Athletics Director of Duke University and Little League baseball coach
German Martinez - Marathon runner
Chase Matthews - Hockey player
Mac McDonald - Doctor Luv
Alec McDowell - Game designer for *Call of Duty Modern Warfare 15*
Stroud McMahan - University of Tennessee baseball manager
Garret Miler - University of Tennessee baseball pitcher
Houston Morris - Red haired lax player
Elliot Morrissey - Comedian
Chris Mowery - Professional bass player
Nick Obremsky - Owns an Italian soccer team
Bates O'Neal - Big Red athletics director
Hayden Palm - Soccer dare devil
Sam Papel - Weapons designer
Nilay Patel - Next president
Blake Patton - Back street MMA fighter
Sam Pinsly - EB games employee
Marty Poe - Ice cream truck driver
Jordan Pugh - Marine
Rahul Ramana - Goes to Nossi College of Art, then retires at the age of 37 as a circus clown
Jonah Rappuhn - Teaches summer school
Tejas Reddy - Starts his own TV network
Jashon Robertson - Pro football player
Heyward Rogers - Buys hundreds of luxury cars
Josh Rotker - Teacher
Jordan Roundtree - Manages something
Pat Sanders - Professional gamer
Ben Shankle - Veterinarian
Will Singer - Abducted by aliens
Stuart Singleton - A professional frat boy
Murphy Smiley - An auctioneer
David Smith - Professional bull fighter
Duncan Smith – General Manager of Rolls-Royce
Sam Smith - Lax penny manufacturer
Coleman Sorenson - Demolition expert
David Spencer - On MTV's "The Real World"
Sam Stallings - Becomes a cage fighter
Nick Trogdon - Works in a pastry shop
Montgomery Turner - Owns a little league baseball team
Wilson Vaughan - Finds a pot of gold
Graham Vines - Discovers a new species of plant
Tucker Voges - Has his own hunting show
Sam Weien - Yellow taxi driver
Braden Welborn – Online pajamas salesman
Joe Werthan – Sports agent for two-hundred athletes
Clay Whitson – Owns beef company
Ridley Wills – 12th degree Judo black belt
Kip Worthington – Owns ski ranch in Colorado

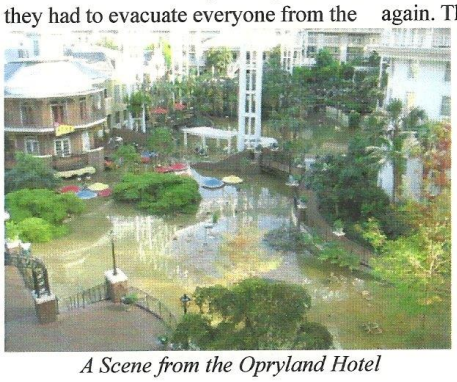
THE FLOOD OF 2010



Flood Hits Opryland and Opry Mills Hard

By Sam Weien

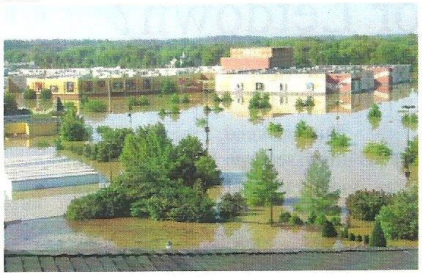
On Saturday, May 2, 2010, it was a torrential downpour. Sunday, May 3, 2010, it somehow managed to rain even harder. On the night of May 3, the Gaylord Opryland Hotel shepherded all the guests and employees to the Presidential Ballroom, which is their biggest ballroom. They did this to round everyone up in case they had to evacuate everyone from the hotel. After an hour in ballroom, around 8:00 PM, Opryland started to evacuate all of the guests and employees to McGavock High School via bus. This turned out to be a safe idea as the hotel began to flood three hours later. By the next morning, the hotel's ground floor had completely flooded. The water was around 8 feet high! Much was ruined, and little was salvageable. The two areas that got the most water damage were the Cascades atrium and ironically, the Delta atrium. On Monday, May 4, Gaylord announced that they were closing the hotel and are now not taking reservations through October. Now parts of the hotel are over 10 feet underwater.



A Scene from the Opryland Hotel

Gaylord Entertainment has many other properties that were affected by the flooding. The most well known, the Grand Ole Opry, was probably hit the hardest. Their stage at the Opry House was completely flooded. But as the saying goes, "the show must go on." The Opry is now performing at the War Memorial Auditorium. They will rotate homes until the Opry House is ready for performances by the Opry again. The Wildhorse Saloon is a music venue on the Cumberland River downtown. As the Cumberland River overflowed downtown, the basement gradually flooded but only got over the stage. The General Jackson, Gaylord's showboat, had to be tied to the ground as the river flooded. The General Jackson only had 15 inches of rope to tie to the mooring dock before they had to cut the boat loose. However, they had a crew onboard to navigate the boat down the flooded Cumberland in case they had to cut the boat loose.

Opryland's neighbor, Opry Mills Mall, was hit hard by the flooding, too. The parking lot of the mall was completely flooded. Opry Mills too had to be evacuated. The flood waters



in the mall were reported at ten feet high. One major rumor is about the Aquarium Restaurant. The rumor is that the Aquarium Restaurant's piranha has escaped its tank and is now loose in Opry Mill's parking lot. This is most likely a rumor and there is nothing to fear.

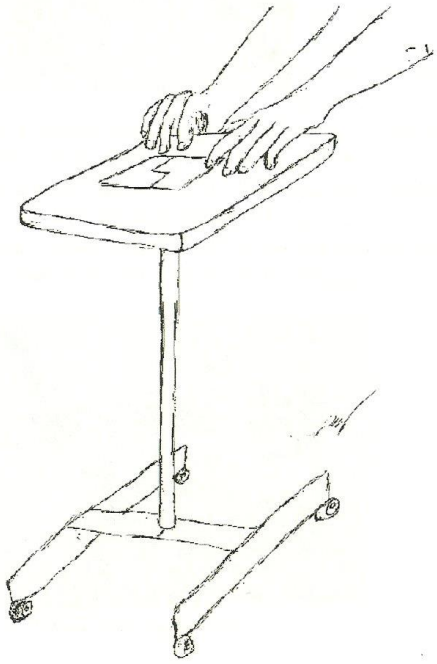
This flood is the worst flood in recorded Nashville history. In one way or another, this flood has affected everyone in Nashville. The Cumberland River crested between 52 and 52.5 feet on Monday night at 8:00 PM. This was a tragic weekend for everyone in the Greater Nashville Area and the Mid-South in general. Much recovery and rebuilding are in the future for everybody.

FINAL CHAPTER

Episode V

By Fletcher Wolfe

I could never hope to explain how I did it. I thought for sure I wouldn't escape the man's grip. In one fluid movement, I slipped downwards and drove one fist into the man's stomach. I was half expecting him to flex, sending my fist glancing off his stomach. Instead, he buckled forward and the dark glasses flew off his face. His hands slipped from my collar. Then I ran, sprinting across the Massey parking lot. When I reached the doors, I paused and turned around. The man was limping up the stairs from the lower lot to the upper lot, grasping his stomach like a wounded soldier. I turned and pushed open the door. There was a brief second when I didn't know which way to run. I thought through possible scenarios. If I ran straight, the man might build up speed and catch me. If I turned left I might trip down the stairs and be caught, and if I tried to run up the stairs, it would slow me considerably. I decided to turn right. My initial plan was to run out the door and turn towards Ball. However, I saw the closet. The very same closet where I first found the trombone stuffed with pilfered school supplies. I opened the closet and half-jumped, half-fell in. I scrambled up and moved to the single window and closed the blinds. The room was completely dark. I crouched behind a projector stand. My heart was beating furiously. A single bead of sweat dripped down my face. My eyes were fixated on the silhouette of the doorknob, barely visible in the darkness. In this moment, I had what one might call an epiphany. Whoever had stolen the materials had used his power to frame the students and give them demerits for not having those materials. It was ingenious, but dastardly. I made a mental list of all the teachers capable of this. But my thoughts were interrupted when the doorknob began to turn. The door was slung open wide to reveal a black clad figure standing in the doorway. His piercing eyes stared over the black bandana he wore on his face. He took a step forward. That was when I wrapped my hand around the projector cart. I got in a sprinter's stance and pushed off my back foot. The projector cart began to move forward. The piercing eyes of the man barely had time to look up before the cart slammed into his chest. He stumbled backwards, and the cart tipped to the side. Then the figure tripped over his feet and fell. His head slammed against the lock on a bottom locker. I stood sweating in the doorway. The piercing eyes were closed. That's when it occurred to me that the man was out cold. I approached the still body and bent down. My hands wrapped around the bandana. With one jerk, it came loose. At that moment, suspicions and hypotheses that I didn't even know I had, surfaced. The culprit was so obvious. It was Mr. Anderson.

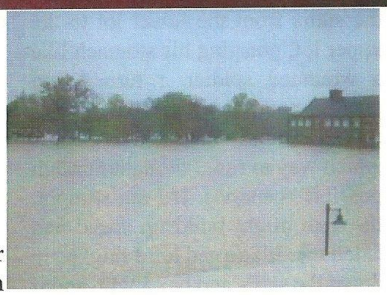


The sponsors and staff of Top of the Hill are proud to reveal our author's true identity and to thank Fletcher Wolfe aka Wells Hamilton for five entertaining episodes of his serialized short story.

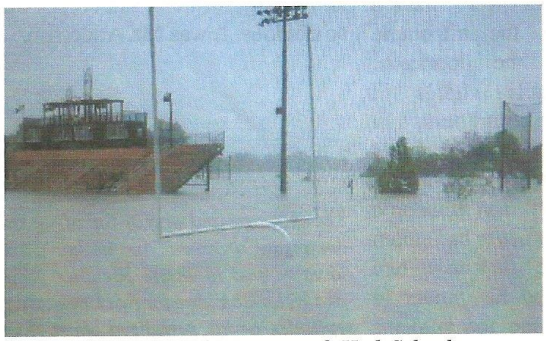
THE FLOOD OF 2010

Music City Monsoon

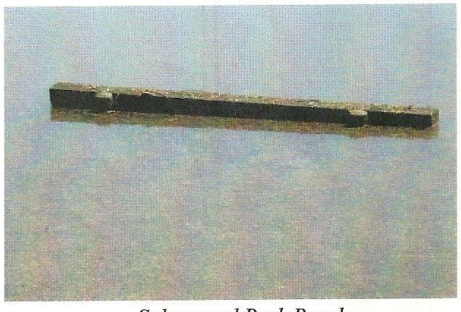
By Cameron Travis



At first it seemed like another rainy day, which are pretty common in Nashville, Tennessee, but when the rain never ceased, and the water level quickly rose, people realized what might be happening. As the ground became oversaturated, the water rose to points which set records. Rivers not only flooded over their banks but also flooded any nearby buildings. Houses and schools became completely submerged. Sewage systems backed up and became mixed with the sitting and flowing water, making the water unsafe. The still rising water softened the soil around trees causing them to fall. The falling trees dragged down power lines and telephone lines. causing many to lose power and communication. Cars and buildings floated away, with little hope of ever being used again. Only after many lost their lives, their homes, their cars, and their memories did the water finally stop its rising. The water neither rose nor fell for two days; furniture was destroyed, and cars were ruined, but then the sun shone brightly and the water slowly but surely receded. The now gone water exposed all of its destruction, and Tennessee was ready to fight back. With hundreds of cars and homes destroyed, thousands of volunteers from everywhere in the state showed up wherever help was needed, to work to clean and rebuild homes and lives. The jobs varied, walls needed to be torn down, whole houses completely demolished and rebuilt. But, the thousands that worked for absolutely no compensation didn't complain or grunt; they simply fought on and many were grateful. The people who showed up to help made the eyes of the nation look and see why Tennessee is called the Volunteer State. Some didn't look because no one robbed and took advantage of the bad situation. Instead, people worked and still are working to restore this city to what it used to be. As you drive through the streets of Nashville, you can see mounds of what people lost, their furniture, their pictures, and any other material possesions that they kept in their home. Those who didn't suffer helped the others who did, the fortunate helped the less fortunate and the nation saw our great love for the others around us, and the city we call home.



The Football Field at Ensworth High School

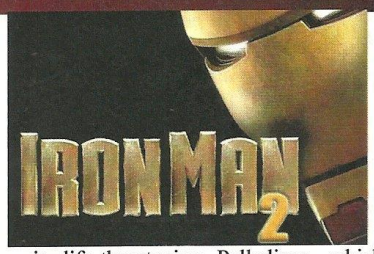


Submerged Park Bench

ENTERTAINMENT

Iron Man 2: Movie Masterpiece or Letdown?

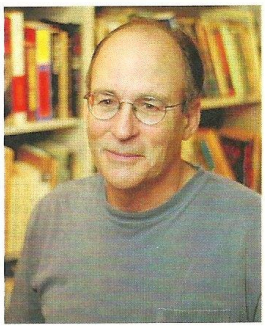
By Kang Huh



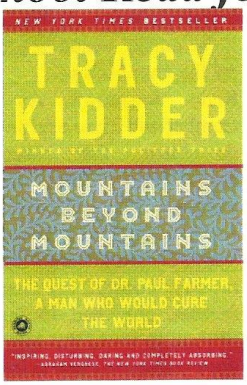
This weekend, I went to Regal Green Hills to see *Iron Man 2*, which, to some, is either the BEST movie they've seen in a long time, or the worst movie of all! Before we get to the 'nit-picky' critical stuff, here's a quick summary from what I remember (I'll try not to give too much away.) The movie starts off with Tony Stark, a weapons manufacturer, who flies in his Iron Man suit into the stage of his annual, year-long Stark Expo. Throughout the movie, however, Stark is faced with a challenge that is a matter of life and death. If you've seen the first movie, he has this arc reactor in his chest which keeps him alive after the incident in the Middle East. But in his "saving grace" is life-threatening Palladium, which increases his blood toxicity. Then, Ivan Vanko, a Russian scientist, constructs an arc reactor himself to avenge his father and kill Tony Stark at the Monaco Grand Prix with his newly fashioned arc reactor and electric whips. But Stark defeats the vengeful Vanko and sends him to jail. But Justin Hammer, another weapons manufacturer frees Vanko from jail and makes a deal with him that if Vanko builds Hammer new suits, he will supply him. Vanko, accepting the deal, fashions powerful androids. Later, at the Hammer Expo, Vanko controls these troops to kill Stark. Readers, ask yourself this: Does Stark resolve his blood toxicity problem? Does Vanko avenge his father's death? Well, I'm sorry, but you'll have to solve that problem by going to a theater and watching it yourself.

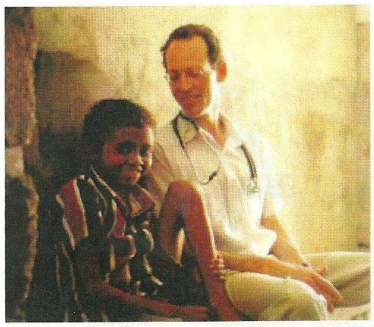
Overall, I thought this was a great movie. It was a lot better than the first movie, because of Col. James Rhodes appearance as War Machine, a "pimped-out" version of Iron Man's suit, stocked with guns, and the "ex-wife," a faulty missile built by the faulty Justin Hammer. Another reason this is so amazing is all the secrets of Tony Stark's past, and how his father, whom he expected to hate him, really cared for him, more than he ever thought. But, the major thing I really didn't like was how there was way too much talking and less excitement. I think some of the parts were a little bit unclear at times. If you don't pay attention, you won't know the conflict between the Starks and the Vankos. I think that the people writing the script should have focused on at least one scene at the beginning showing how Anton Vanko was in such a critical state or the conflict between Anton Vanko and Howard Stark. However, the good outweighs the bad reviews, and I think others may agree that *Iron Man 2*, is one of the better movies (not the best) of the year, considering that there weren't many good ones. So grab some friends, and go out to the theaters soon, and watch this movie because it's *really* good.

The All-School Read for Fall 2010



Tracy Kidder


NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
TRACY KIDDER
MOUNTAINS BEYOND MOUNTAINS
THE QUEST OF DR. PAUL FARMER, A MAN WHO WOULD CURE THE WORLD



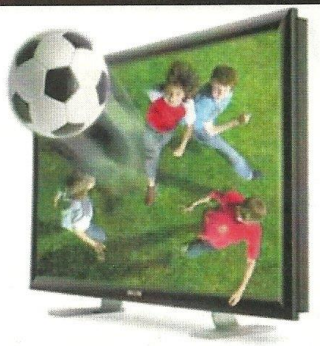
Dr. Paul Farmer in Haiti

ENTERTAINMENT

3-D Television: A Jump in Technology

By Nicholas Heim

For years, 3-D movies were a common phenomenon, and they are to this day. But this idea of enjoying this added experience used occur only in the movie theater. Now, Samsung and other television companies are bringing it to your own home. Blu-Ray has been a very successful technology, making special effects look so realistic that you feel like you're in a movie. Also, you can buy movies for your normal TV that can be watched with glasses. Now, you can watch your favorite TV shows in 3-D, anytime. Think about it. Watching Steve Carrel pointing his finger and laughing at you on *The Office*. Stewie Griffin shooting his ray-gun at you on *Family Guy*, or seeing a bullet fly across the screen on *CSI: Miami*. This was a fantasy, but now it is a reality. But it doesn't stop at TV programming. There will soon be ways to play your favorite video games in 3-D. Some of the first games in this format are *Batman: Arkham Asylum 3-D*, and other classic *Call of Duty* games,

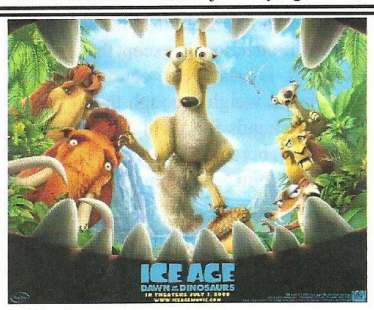


not *Modern Warfare*, yet. Also, with most 3-D TV's glasses are required, but there is now a model by TCL in China that requires no glasses at all. 3-D TV and home entertainment is a huge jump in today's technology, and it will definitely be a successful one.

Top Ten Worst Sequels EVER!

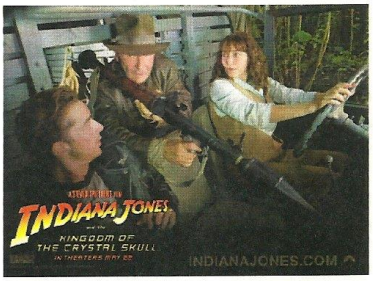
By Sam Weien

What do you do when you make an amazing movie? Easy, make another movie that can bank off the first. Sometimes these movies do well, maybe even better than the first, like the *Lethal Action*, *Mission Impossible*, or *Lord of the Rings* movies. But other (and most of the) times, the sequels go horribly wrong. Some sequels are historically inaccurate; some follow



the same plot of the original, have lame endings, and lose tens of millions of dollars. This list shows the top ten disasters that have ever tried to be called movies.

1. *The Sandlot 2*
2. *Speed 2: Cruise Control*
3. *Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties*
4. *Alvin and the Chipmunks the Squeakqual*
5. All cheap Disney sequels: *102 Dalmatians, Aladdin 2: The Return of Jafar,* etc.
6. *Rocky V*
7. *Ice Age 3: Dawn of the Dinosaurs*
8. *Shrek the Third*
9. *Star Wars Episode I: the Phantom Menace*
10. *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*



ENTERTAINMENT

JUST CAUSE 2

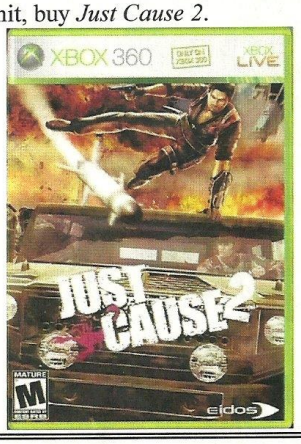
By Jackson Rich
Xbox live gamertag: jrich767

Just Cause 2 is a 3rd person free-roaming action game featuring you as the main character, Rico. Rico works for a division of U.S. intelligence simply known as The Agency. *Just Cause 2* takes you to the island of Piano off of northeast Asia where a new president has just cut off relations with the U.S. government. An agent that was sent to Panou before you has cut off contact with the Agency, and Rico is sent in after him to locate the missing agent. Soon after entering Panou, you realize that something bigger is going on than just a missing agent, and before long you have discovered a full-blown conspiracy.

The gameplay in *Just Cause 2* is very interesting, because there is a huge number of vehicles to control, and those vehicles include motorcycles, cars quad-bikes, monster trucks, boats, airplanes, and helicopters. As you can imagine, transportation is no problem.

Another strange element of the game is the huge amount of emphasis put on your parachute and grapple. While some of the things you do in a parachute may not be possible in real life, it still is extremely fun to grapple onto a car and use the momentum gathered by this to deploy your parachute and fly up into the sky.

While this game looks great on paper, it often times fails to live up to standards due to repetitive game play, not that amazing graphics, and somewhat glitchy game-play. Overall I give this game an 8 out of 10 star rating, and say that if you want a game where the sky is the limit, buy *Just Cause 2*.



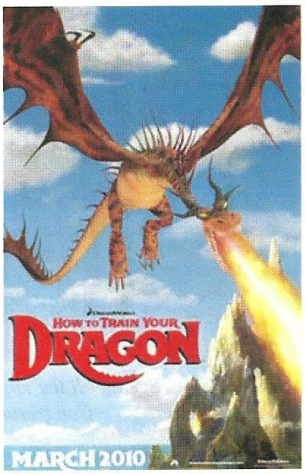
How to Train Your Dragon

By Nick Trogdon

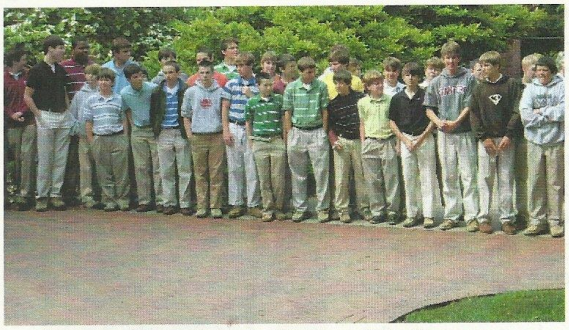
So DreamWorks made another movie in the last few years. The last one I can remember is *Kung Fu Panda*, a movie which I saw when I was about 10. But now they have a new movie, *How to Train Your Dragon*. The movie is about a Viking kid named Hiccup, who is a complete failure at being an actual Viking. He can't fight; he has no friends, and he is a loser. This all changes when he tries to kill a dragon with some medieval cannon thing (he is not able to actually kill the dragon, just take it down). He then finds the dragon, tries to kill it, and doesn't. This starts the entire story.

As I watched it, I was thinking it was an okay movie. The effects were about DreamWorks grade animation (as it is an animated movie, if you couldn't tell by the preview). The plot was overall very simple, with about three big plot twists thrown in. There was almost no character time by that I mean there were about four characters that actually got an in-depth look at who the character actually was. I was okay with this, as the rest of the screen time was animated Vikings stabbing stuff and flying around in the air on dragons stealth bombing other dragons.

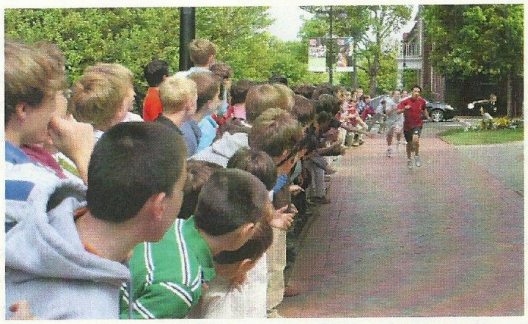
As a whole, I give the movie 3 out of 5, just because while it wasn't the worst movie I ever saw, it was nowhere close to the best.



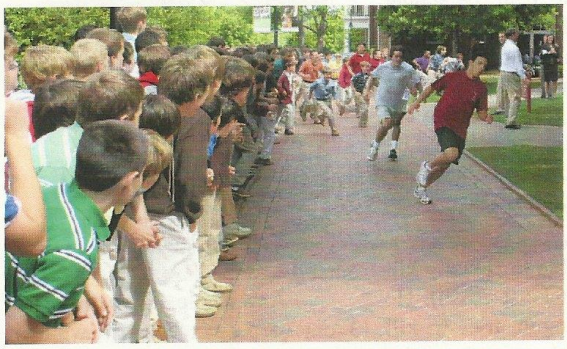
FOUNDERS DAY

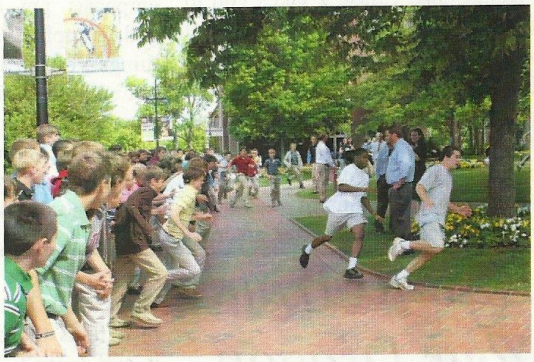


Microbes wait patiently in "Bellevue" for the runners.

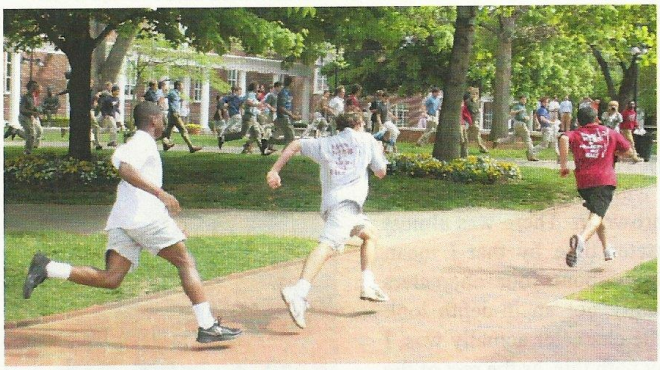


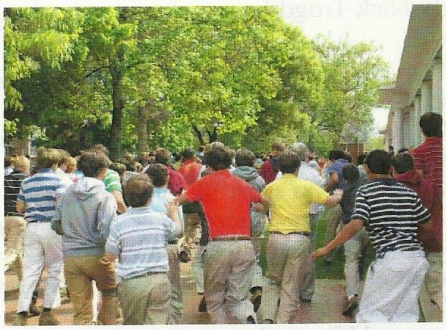
The spectators lean in as the runners appraoch.





As senior David Lee leads the way, the microbes cheer the runners on.





Seeing all the upperclassman rush toward the finish line, the microbes join the chaos.
Congratulations, David Lee on winning the 2010 Founders Day Race!

TENNIS

Big Red Tennis Dominates the HVAC

By Sean Kinch

The JS tennis team had another banner season in 2010, winning its fourth straight HVAC title. The season culminated in a perfect performance at the HVAC tournament, where MBA won all five of the brackets. MBA won each of its eight HVAC team matches prior to the tournament, and lost individual matches only when its roster was depleted by the 8th grade trip to Atlanta. This year marks the first time in Coach Sean Kinch's eight-year career that MBA swept the HVAC tournament.

MBA's top player this year was Kalyan Chadalavada, who was undefeated in HVAC play and finished the season with an impressive win in the HVAC tournament at #1 singles. Fred Harwell and Wilson Vaughan traded places at #2 and #3 singles throughout the year, with Fred finally winning the HVAC title at #2 and Wilson winning, convincingly, at #3. According to Coach Kinch, at the year's end, MBA had the best three singles players in all of Davidson County.

Doubles has traditionally been a strength of the MBA team, and this year our doubles teams proved especially strong. At the HVAC tournament, Chris Estes teamed with Wren McFadden to win #1 doubles. Chris was outstanding throughout the year and looks to be a star in the making. Tejas Reddy, paired with Sam Pinsly, finished his HVAC career with a win at #2 doubles.

For all of its successes in 2010, this year's tennis team will be remembered as much for its high spirits and playful attitude as it will for its on-court victories. "We may not always have the most productive practices," said Coach Mike Davidson. "But when it comes to being kids and having fun, we're not missing out on anything."

HVAC Champions Again!!!

BASEBALL

Microbe A: HVAC Champs!

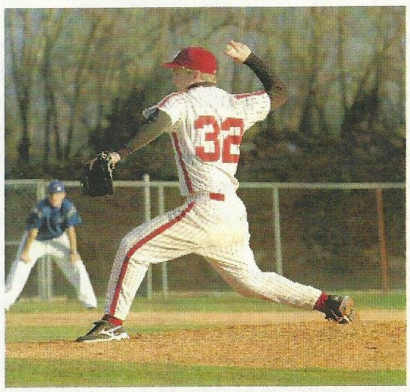
By Bradley Bennett

Many people that have knowledge of baseball know the difficulties of the task of winning a championship. Winning games in baseball takes more than one individual member; an entire team must be set toward one goal. A player has the confidence that a team is behind him that will help support him if that player is having a rough game. The Montgomery Bell Academy microbe A baseball team faced many tough opponents throughout the season. Facing teams such as Lipscomb, Ensworth, Davidson Academy, and Goodpasture created a difficult season. The Big Red fought hard against these and many more opponents. After the dust cleared, the microbe A baseball team found themselves gearing up for the HVAC tournament.

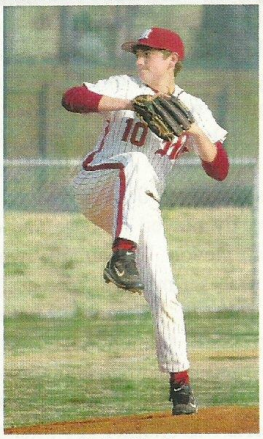
The HVAC tournament contains every school team in the HVAC division. The Big Red met their first match up at 42nd Avenue against the well-practiced team from Franklin Road Academy. Montgomery Turner, the starting pitcher, threw a hard fought game with the Big Red coming out on top with a 5 - 1 victory over FRA. Advancing to the next round the microbe A team met an old adversary, Christ Presbyterian Academy. With Luke Cochran on the mound, the Big Red took another victory 10 - 0 over CPA. With a couple days of practice and rest on days with byes, the team was ready for the championship against Battle Ground Academy. Energized by one of Coach Golenor's famous pep-talks, and Montgomery Turner returning to the mound, the microbes jumped out early taking a five run lead in the first inning. BGA battled back, however, gaining four runs back in the bottom of the first. Throughout the game the Big Red was able to hold BGA while slowly gaining runs. The game ended with a final score of 13 - 4 with the microbe A baseball team holding a first place plaque as HVAC champions. The season ended on a high note, and the team could have never made it so far without the leadership from our coaches, Coach Golenor and Coach Pierce. The team would like to say thank you to the coaches for their support. This season was a memorable one.

HVAC CHAMPS!!!

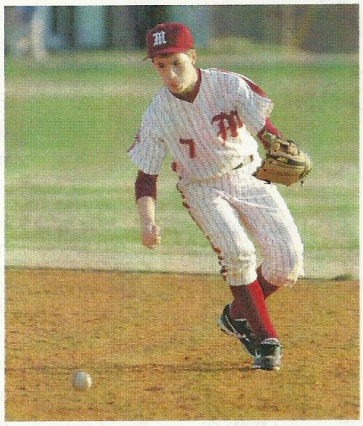
BASEBALL



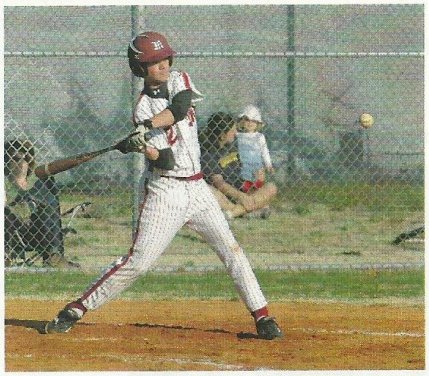
Garrett Miler



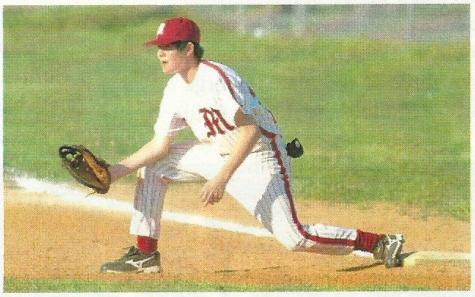
Luke Cochran



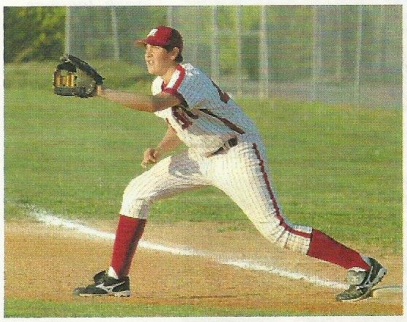
Bradley Bennett



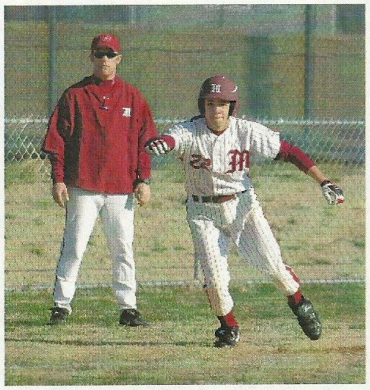
Montgomery Turner



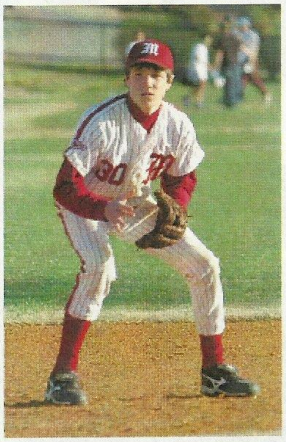
David Harrison



Alex Bars



Jalen Hurd and Coach Golenor



Tucker Voges

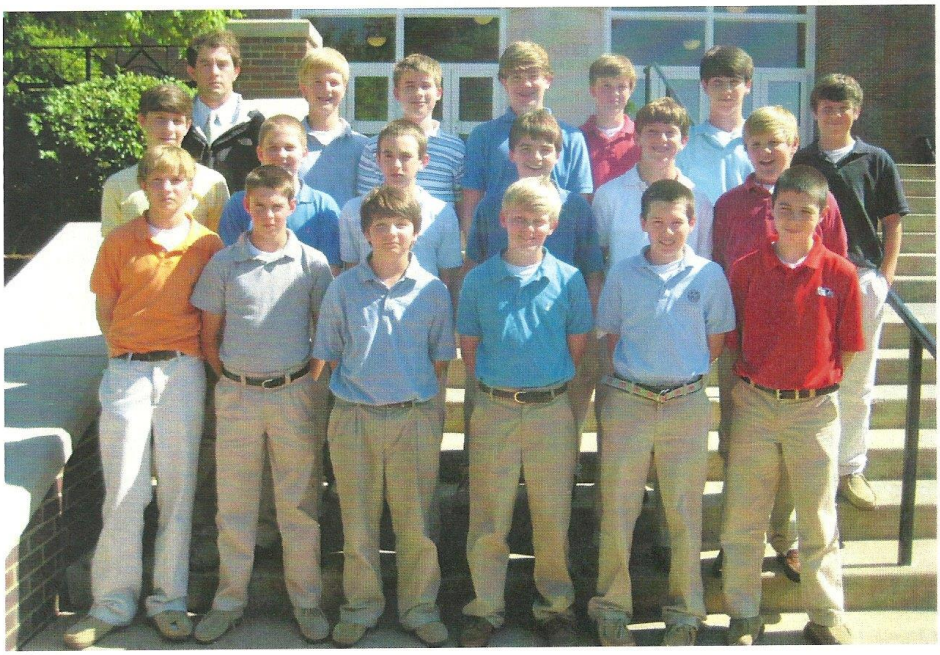
Photos courtesy of Michael Bennett

BASEBALL

Microbe B Baseball

By Charlie Hawkins

This year's 2010 Microbe B Baseball team had a progressive, fun, and successful year. The squad, compiling a 7-4-1 record was led by 8th graders Drew Benson, Taylor Adams, Stroud McMahan, Christian King, Charlie Hawkins, Chase Duffey, and Will Singer. In addition, Billy Deutsch added some spirit to the practices and served as a handy right fielder. Wilson Flack was an effective force at the plate. George Hunt was definitely the funniest kid on the team who served as a good catcher and scorekeeper. Christian King was a key outfielder for the B-squad, while Bill Leftwich was the number two hitter and picked up balls like a vacuum-cleaner at shortstop. Joseph McKinney primarily played 3rd base and extra hitter. Devon O'Donnell, who at the first scrimmage was assigned the role of "Dugout Manager," progressed tremendously at 2nd base and pitching and provided much energy to the team. Nathan Roberts was another key pitcher for the team and mixed up the pitches very well. Will Singer was our first baseman and pitched as well. Stephen Sullivan pitched and was a key first base coach. Richard Thornton, was a great centerfielder and pinch runner for the team. John Tipps was our lead-off man, who got on base most of the time and was a solid 2nd baseman. Last but not least, Haynes Young played outfield, pitched, and always got on base. Thanks to Coach Jacques for a great year. You helped us get better day in and day out in practice. Solid wins included a 10-0 win over Ensworth, followed by a 15-1 win over them again in the same week, a 16-3 win over CPA, an 8-6 win over Bellevue Middle School, a 12-0 win over West End Middle School, a 14-6 win over Nashville Catholic, and a 7-4 win over a very good David Lipscomb team. The season ended with a very fun five-inning inner-squad scrimmage where popsicles and popcorn and many other things were supplied by some of the families. The Microbe B Baseball team had a great year!



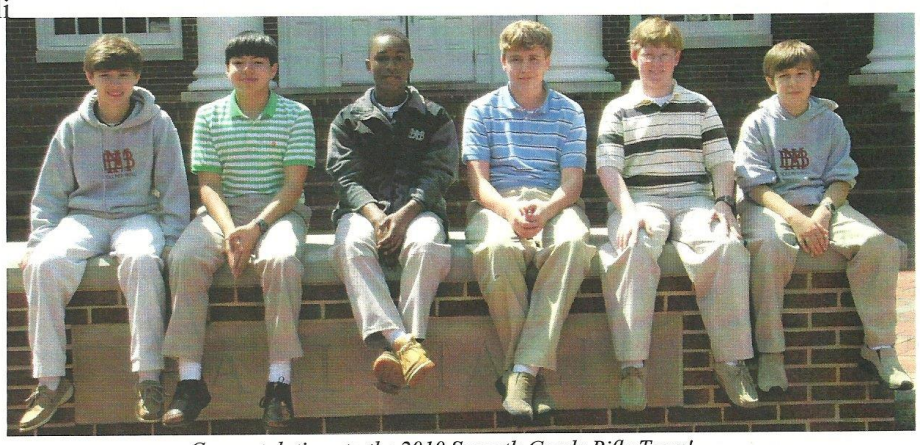
Coach Jacques and his victorious Big Red B Team

RIFLERY

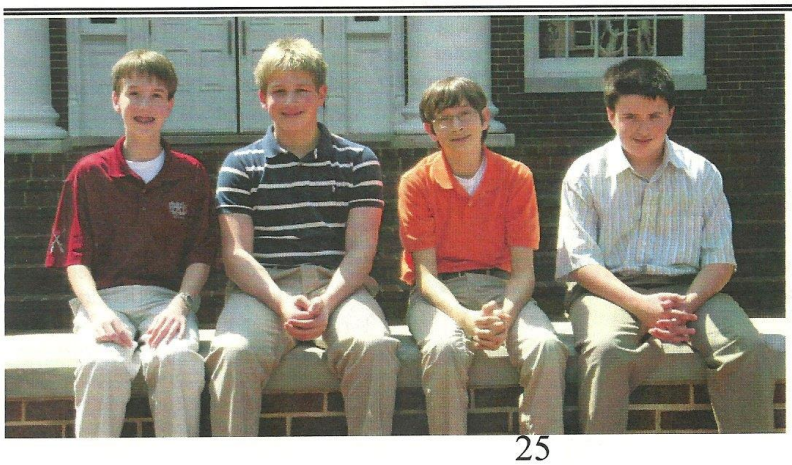
Seventh-Grade Rifle Team State Champs!

By Matt Miccioli

The Seventh-Grade Rifle had another very successful season this year. The team won 1st Place in the Open Division in State Championship. We had at least one person place in every event, and Tracey Mathis placed in four of the five events. The team placed its best overall score in six years. The members of the State Championship were Tracey Mathis, Alec Giammalvo, Matt Miccioli, Charles Hunter, John Triplett, Nathan Sharp, and James Matthews. The team also participated in two smaller tournaments earlier in the year, and performed well in both. The goal of the program is to prepare the seventh graders to make the varsity team in 8th grade, and most likely, all seven shooters will make that team. We would like to thank Senor Gray and Leo Lujan for coaching the team, and hopefully the next team will continue the winning streak.



Congratulations to the 2010 Seventh-Grade Rifle Team!



Eighth-grade members of the Varsity Rifle Team

TRACK

Tenacious Tracksters

By Owen Powell

The MBA track team was led by veteran head coach Russell. All the athletes admired him as a coach for his passion as a track coach. His tenacity encouraged all the athletes to work harder and get better. He and the other coaches did a great job keeping the huge team busy and improving at every practice.

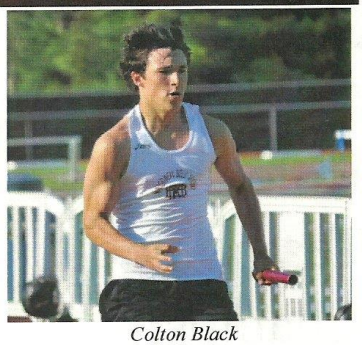
The Big Red consistently finished in the top 3 in every meet throughout the season. This was a result of everyone, 7th and 8th graders alike, helping the team to be competitive. The entire year was full of close finishes between Ensworth, Brentwood Academy and MBA. Ensworth had received a number of new good athletes on their team as had BA. MBA never wavered in our determination to overcome the two rivals. We were still anticipating the HVAC championships, and our chance to own that title.

The HVAC Track and Field Championships began April 27 at MBA. At the last practice before the qualifiers, runners, jumpers, and throwers took the day easy and became mentally prepared. The meet began with track qualifiers for boys. Colton Black, Owen Powell, and Will Pearson were MBA competitors competing in the 110m Hurdles. It was a thing of beauty. There were 3 heats -- Owen in the first, Will in the second, and Colton in the third. In the first heat Owen glided over the hurdles to a first place finish. In the second heat Will glided over the hurdles to a first place finish. Finally, in the third heat, Colton glided over the hurdles for the third MBA victory. I think Coach Gaither knows how to coach hurdles!

In the 100m Dash Colton Black was the only one from MBA to qualify. He is fast. In the 200m Dash Colton Black was the only one to qualify. Do you now see what I'm saying? In the 400m Dash we had 2 qualifiers: Colton Black and Owen Powell.

April 28 was time for the field events for the boys. Colton Black once again proved himself to be a contributor by winning the long jump. In the shot put Jay Robertson did exceptionally well by placing second, and he also won the discus. In pole vault we had Cal Fisher finishing third and Coleman Sorenson also placing in the top 8.

Track Finals took place Friday, April 29. To kick the finals off there were the 110m Hurdles, the event dominated by MBA in the preliminaries. The race was hard fought and eventually won by Colton Black. In third was Owen Powell, and placing eighth was Will Pearson. After the 110 Hurdles was the 100m Dash which MBA 8th grader Colton Black had qualified for with the best time overall. The gun went off and it seemed as if Colton had slipped a



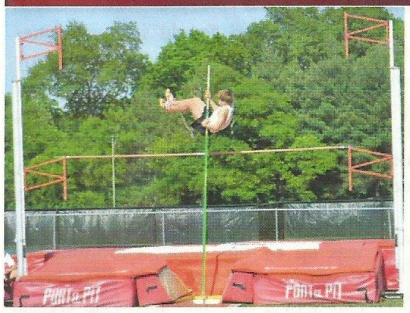
Colton Black

bit, but he was still going. He finished second with a time below his normal. Colton had pulled his hip flexer and didn't know if he could run in 200 or 400. About an hour later, the 400 was gearing up, and Colton was still in pain so he decided to rest for the 200m. Owen Powell ran in the 400 and finished 4th. About another 30 minutes passed, and Colton stretched and got into his blocks for the 200. He came around the turn limping and in pain. He tried to fight through it but still had to settle for 8th. It was a sad ending to his Microbe track season, but the injury doesn't lessen his accomplishment of being a top qualifier for all races entered.

In distance running, we had a show of pure determination and will. Eric Anderson on the first lap of the mile was spiked in the back of the heel, and his shoe came off. He didn't let that bother him, he finished the race with a stitch worthy cut and no shoe. In the 800 Will Pearson turned it on for the last lap and finished in the top 8, scoring points for the Big Red.

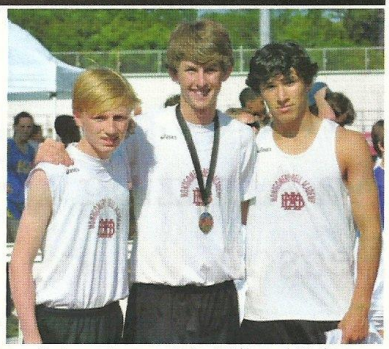
At the end of the day we finished third in HVAC behind 1st place Ensworth and 2nd place Brentwood Academy. It was a bittersweet ending to a long year but everyone on the team enjoyed the experience, with many members learning new events they are sure to improve on in the years ahead.

TRACK



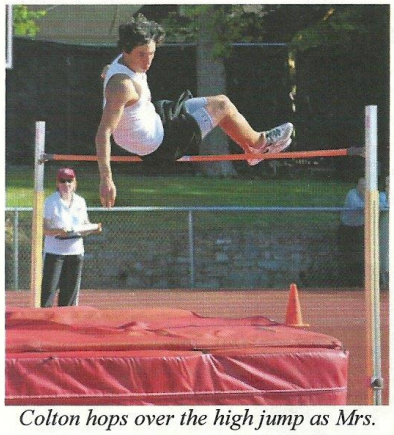
Cal goes up, up, and over.

Before the competitors even knew the race had started, Will was over the first hurdle.



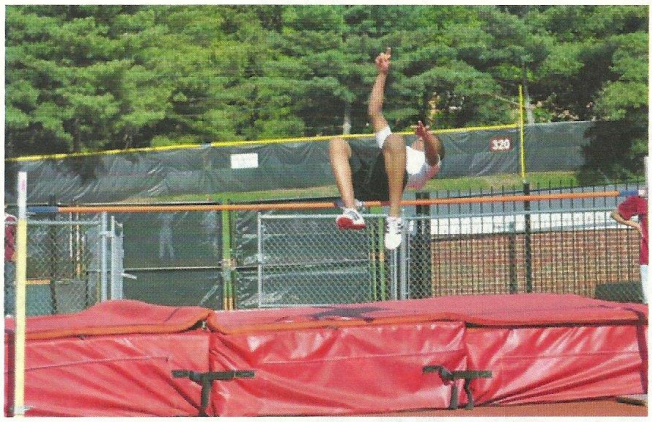
In true team spirit, Will and Colton congratulate Owen on his medal.

All track photos are courtesy of Molly Powell

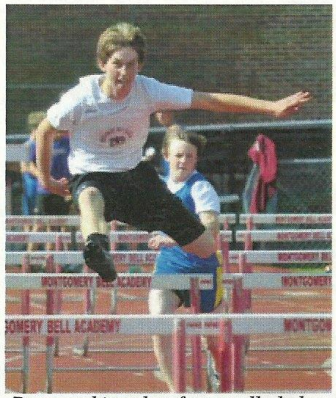


Colton hops over the high jump as Mrs. Roberts judges.

Reeeeeeaaaaaaaach, Andrew!!!



Rahn makes it look so easy as he gives a "point" to the Lord.



Does making that face really help, Owen?

LACROSSE

Eighth-Grade Lacrosse: An Amazing Season

By Ben Barton

Returning to the field confident after the MBA 8th grade lacrosse team's defeat of USN 10-0, we faced our first challenge of the season MUS. We lost 12-4 to what ended up to be the best team we would play all year, but there was great improvement in the second half of the game. After this tough loss, the team faced Hendersonville. We rebounded fast and crushed them 11-2, which was an improvement from the last time the team faced them. We then faced Woodland, the first challenge since MUS. It was a hard fought game, with the score tied at 3-3 close to the end of the game. MBA then quickly scored two goals, winning a close game.

The next Saturday we had a double header against McCallie, a high school lacrosse powerhouse, and Chaminade from St. Louis. The lacrosse team's first game was against McCallie. We had expected this to be a close game, but because of the skill of our team, we annihilated them 4-1. The team then played Chaminade. We did not know what to expect, but we quickly dominated them 8-0, sending them on their six hour bus ride with fear in their hearts. The team then faced Brentwood, and destroyed them 11-3.

Our next two games were the most hard fought intense games of lacrosse we had ever played; my lacrosse stick was shattered into three pieces. The team first played Ensworth, which had beaten Harding and has a few extremely talented players. After four quarters of a close scoreboard, MBA in the last two minutes of the game was up by one point. Unfortunately, Ensworth ran it down with a fast break and shot a few feet from the crease. Amazingly, the goalie captain Wells Hamilton saved it and bombed it down field to an attack man who scored. MBA won the game 6-4. Then, in an equally challenging game, the team played Harding. It was a long, gruesome game, and went into double overtime, but we unfortunately lost because of a fast break. On a happier note, the player who scored the majority of their goals that game is coming to MBA next year.

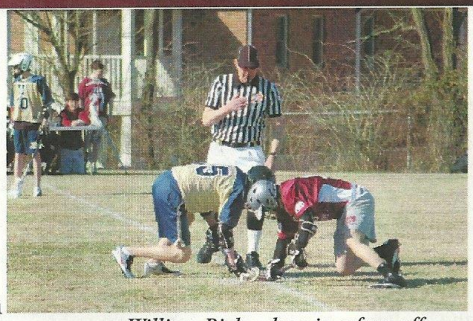
The 2010 Eighth-Grade Lacrosse Team

The team then traveled to Chattanooga for its season ending tournament. Our first game was against the Greyhounds of Pope Academy. The game started out a close game, but we quickly piled on points to win the game 10-4. The next game was against Rossview. This game also started out close, but the team fell apart and they ended up beating us 8-3. We then played the Saints. In our last game of the season, we played our hearts out and won 11-3, with amazing play from William Holbrook. The team had a terrific season, and we would like to thank Coach Cooper, Coach Brown, and Coach Garner.

LACROSSE

MBA 7th Grade Lacrosse

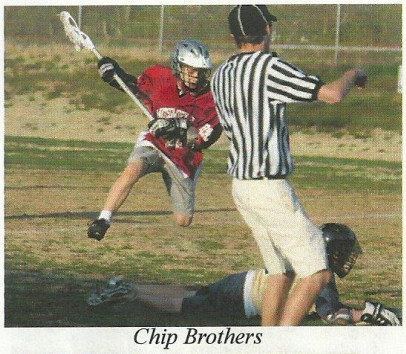
By William Richardson



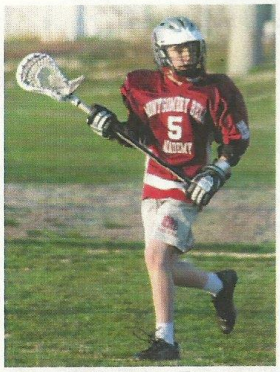
William Richardson in a face off.

This lacrosse season for the MBA 7th grade team was marked by ups and downs, but overall was a great experience. The captains of the team were William Richardson, Parks Ball, and Samuel Gaston. The scoring leaders were William Richardson (16), Trice McCullar (13), Austin Rolfe (12) and Parks Ball (12). Some of the biggest wins came at Franklin after their B team cancelled, and MBA played the A team. The game was probably one of the best played all season by the Big Red as we beat Franklin 5-2. Some tough losses also came against Nashville Catholic (5-14), MUS (2-7), and USN (1-7). The team also showed perseverance during the McCallie game as there were many penalties on MBA.

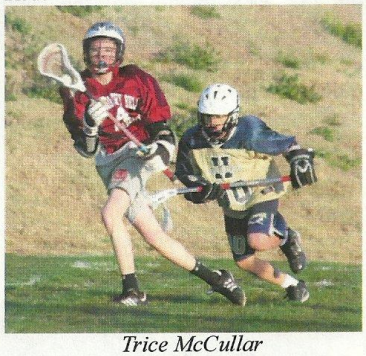
Despite the disadvantage of being man-down some of the game, the Big Red pulled through and won 6-2. That same day, St. Louis Chaminade came down from Missouri and played the Big Red. MBA won 5-3 in a well-played, clean game. Tuesday, April 20 marked the beginning of a four game stretch through Friday, April 24. These games were at Franklin (W-5-2), at Ensworth (L-3-2), at USN (L-7-1), and against Harding (W-10-1). The Friday afternoon game turned out to be the last game of the season because the Middle Tennessee Lacrosse Tournament was cancelled on Saturday, May 1 due to heavy rain. The Big Red had a final record of 6-7. They also scored a combined 75 goals with an average of 5.8 goals per game. The team would like to thank Coach Ardisson and Coach Schumacher for a great season. Go Big Red!



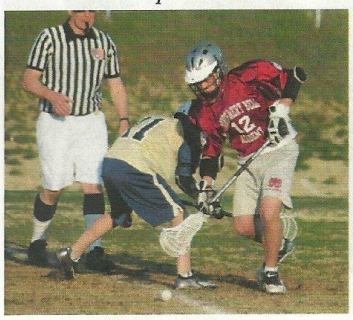
Chip Brothers



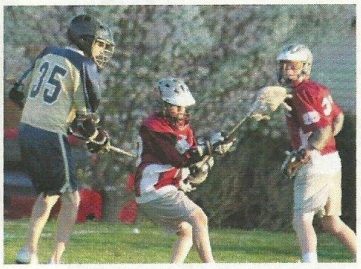
Cameron Travis



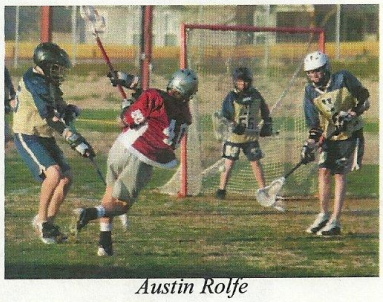
Trice McCullar



Kirkland Mawae



Daniel Maynard



Austin Rolfe

Seventh-grade lacrosse pictures courtesy of Faye Maynard

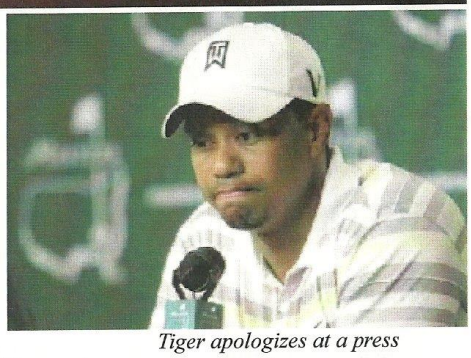
THE PRO SCENE

Tiger's Return

By Chris Byrne

The golf world's #1 returned to center stage at the Masters in Augusta, GA in early April after a four-month leave from golf following the shocking news of his scandalous transgressions. On November 27, 2009, Tiger crashed his SUV into a fire hydrant and tree at 2:25 a.m.; half-conscious, he was pulled from the car by his wife, Elin Nordegren Woods, who used a golf club to smash out the back window of the car to get him out. He was rushed to the hospital via ambulance and quickly released after being treated for facial lacerations. These minor injuries would quickly heal, but the news that followed left devastating scars that will last a lifetime.

Multiple reports of marital infidelity filled the airwaves for weeks, and as each offense became public, our view of Tiger changed. Fooled by his charm and blinded by his talent, many had endorsed him, each more disappointed than next to learn the truth. Perhaps the words of Masters chairman Billy Payne summed up the feelings of most, "He forgot that with fame and fortune came responsibility, not invisibility. It is not the degree of his conduct that was so egregious but the fact that he disappointed all of us, and more importantly our kids and grandkids. Our hero did not live up to the expectations of the role model we saw for our children."

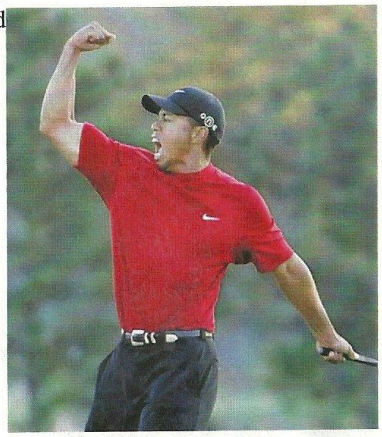


Tiger apologizes at a press conference

With Tiger's apologies came requests for a second chance. Many who knew him publicly were ready to move on, and golf resumed. The following days at Augusta National brought the usual fierce competition. In the end, Tiger would not take home the green jacket; it would belong this year to Phil Mickelson.

However, the golf seemed less of a story than Tiger's return, which was accompanied by record ratings, increased revenues, the paparazzi, the lights, the cameras, and crowds. Something seemed wrong that such glitter accompanied such tragedy and hurt. Yes, Tiger was back and many of the traditions remained; however, with each flash of the camera we looked at a different man, forever changed by his own choices.

Tiger struggles at the 2010 Masters



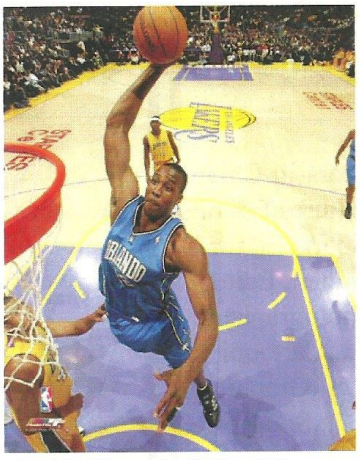
Is this Tiger gone for good?

THE PRO SCENE

NBA Playoffs

By Brandon Carpenter

The NBA playoffs have been a wild ride. The number seven seed Spurs upset the second seeded Dallas. In the first round, the Thunder had a chance against the Lakers. The Phoenix Suns have also been peaking at the right time. They have never looked better and have proven they are a threat. With LeBron and Shaq gone from the competition because of an upset by the Celtics, the title is up for grabs. All teams left at this stage are worthy of the title "Champions," but only one team can be crowned. The four teams left are the Boston Celtics, Orlando Magic, L.A. Lakers, and Phoenix Suns. The Celtics face the Magic, and the Lakers face the Suns. Boston has had a good run defeating the Cavs, but Dwight Howard and the Magic refuse to leave the competition. Even though the Suns are playing very well right now, the Lakers are unstoppable. Could Kobe go for ring number five? The finals will be a repeat of last year, with an opposite outcome. Orlando is determined to finish with a ring this year. They refuse to fall short again. The Orlando Magic will prevail over the L.A. Lakers



Dwight Howard will slam it home against the Lakers.

Bracket

First Round
Eastern Conference
(1) Cleveland over (8) Chicago - 4 to 1
(4) Boston over (5) Miami - 4 to 1
(3) Atlanta over (6) Milwaukee - 4 to 3
(2) Orlando over (7) Charlotte - 4 to 0

Western Conference
(1) Lakers over (8) Oklahoma City - 4 to 2
(5) Utah over (4) Denver - 4 to 2
(3) Phoenix over (6) Portland - 4 to 2
(7) San Antonio over (2) Dallas - 4 to 2

Conference Semifinals
Eastern Conference
(4) Boston over (1) Cleveland - 4 to 2
(2) Orlando over (3) Atlanta - 4 to 0

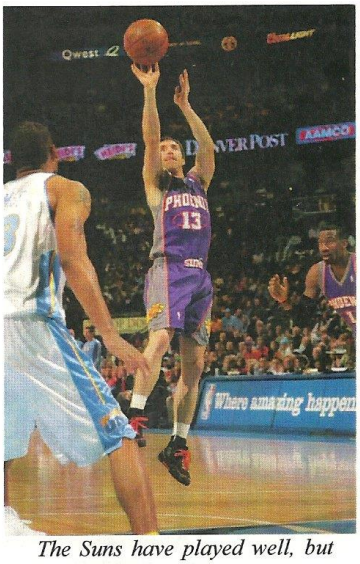
Western Conference
(1) Lakers over (5) Utah - 4 to 0
(3) Phoenix over (7) San Antonio - 4 to 0

Conference Finals
(4) Boston and (2) Orlando - ???
(1) Lakers and (3) Phoenix - ???

My prediction –
Powerhouse Dwight Howard and the Magic will be too much for Kevin Garnett and the Celtics to handle. – Orlando over Boston
The Suns have done very well this year, but Kobe Bryant and Lakers will make it to the Championship once again. – Lakers over Phoenix

Championship
Orlando will face off with the Lakers for a "Magical" repeat of last year's Finals with the Magic prevailing this time. – Orlando over Lakers.

***Article submitted for publication on May 15th. All results as of that date.*



The Suns have played well, but will fall short of the Lakers

THE BACK PAGE

No Matter *how* you're summer turns out...

Have Fun & Be Safe...

and make sure you don't smell like steak

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